

Board Policy #8

TITLE: Use of GO Virginia Funds for Investments in Broadband

EFFECTIVE DATE: 09/10/2019

AUTHORITY: § 2.2-2486 - §2.2-2489 of the Code of Virginia

POLICY STATEMENT: It is the policy of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board that funds may be used for projects supporting regional broadband planning efforts focused on private sector service provisions as localities prepare to use taxpayer dollars to incentivize private sector broadband infrastructure build out. The Board will only require a 50% local match for regional broadband planning efforts given the exceptional economic opportunity of these projects. Further, Virginia Growth and Opportunity funds may be used for middle mile broadband infrastructure projects, including but not limited to fiber and conduit, which extend telecommunications networks, in partnership with the private sector, and focus on meeting the business needs of a community. The Board will consider future applications that leverage broadband deployment with digital literacy and internet relevance programming connected to business growth and expansion opportunities. Both of these funding opportunities should meet normal match requirement.

It is the policy of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board that funds shall not be used for broadband projects focused on providing direct or retail broadband service to customers (also known as "last-mile").

APPROVAL AND REVIEW: This Board policy was reviewed and approved on 09/10/2019.

SUPERSESSION: This Board policy is new.

DHCD DIRECTOR: Erik Johnston